

Message Text

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FM SECSTATE WASHDC

TO AMEMBASSY CARACAS IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L STATE 092095

TOSEC 38

E. O. 11652: GDS

TAGS: PFOR

SUBJECT: CSCE MULTILATERAL PREPARATORY TALKS (MPT),
MAY 7-13

1. DURING THE PAST WEEK, FURTHER PROGRESS WAS MADE AT HELSINKI IN DRAFTING ON SUBSTANTIVE ISSUES AND IN DISCUSSIONS ON THE ORGANIZATION OF THE CONFERENCE-- IN AN ATMOSPHERE REFLECTING A GENERAL BELIEF THAT MPT COULD CONCLUDE ITS WORK IN TIME FOR A CONFERENCE OPENING AROUND THE END OF JUNE.

2. HOWEVER, THERE REMAINED AN IMPORTANT OBSTACLE TO FURTHER FORWARD MOVEMENT AT THE END OF WEEK, I. E., SOVIET REFUSAL TO JOIN THE MAJORITY IN ACCEPTANCE OF A COMPROMISE APPROACH TO TREATMENT OF PRINCIPLES IN THE FREER MOVEMENT/ HUMAN CONTACTS MANDATE. RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES ON HUMAN CONTACTS APPEARS TO REMAIN A PRE-REQUISITE TO ACQUIESCENCE IN A COMPROMISE ON THE TOPIC OF PRIME IMPORTANCE TO MOSCOW-- TREATMENT OF FRONTIER INVIOABILITY IN THE CONTEXT OF PRINCIPLES OF INTER-
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STATE RELATIONS.

3. THE HIGHLIGHTS OF THE WEEK INCLUDED:

-- FREER MOVEMENT/ HUMAN CONTACTS: A MAJORITY OF THE NATO ALLIES AND ALL SIGNIFICANT NEUTRALS WERE PREPARED

AT THE END OF THE WEEK TO SUPPORT A COMPROMISE SOLUTION TO THE CONTENTIOUS ISSUE OF TREATMENT OF GENERAL PRINCIPLES IN THIS MANDATE, ENTAILING A BALANCED REFERENCE TO SOVEREIGNTY AND HUMAN RIGHTS. ALTHOUGH THE ITALIANS AND DUTCH CONTINUED TO OPPOSE THIS COMPROMISE, ARGUING THAT IT CONCEDES TOO MUCH TO MOSCOW, OUR DELEGATION DID NOT BELIEVE THEY WOULD LONG PERSIST IF THE WARSAW PACT STATES ACCEPTED THIS APPROACH AND THUS PUT THEM IN THE POSITION OF BLOCKING A GENERAL CONSENSUS. WARSAW PACT DELEGATIONS, HOWEVER, CONTINUED TO INSIST UPON AN ADDITIONAL REFERENCE TO NON- INTERFERENCE IN INTERNAL AFFAIRS.

ALLIED RESISTANCE ON THIS ISSUE WAS STRENGTHENED BY THE FACT THAT BOTH MENDELEVICH AND ZORIN HAD EARLIER SAID IN THE CORRIDORS THAT MORE MODEST FORMULATIONS WOULD ULTIMATELY BE ACCEPTABLE TO THEIR AUTHORITIES, IF THE COMPROMISE WERE PROPOSED BY OTHERS. VEST TOLD MENDELEVICH PRIVATELY THAT A REFERENCE TO NON- INTERFERENCE WAS UNOBTAINABLE.

IT NOW APPEARS THAT A SOLUTION MAY LIE IN A SUGGESTION FLOATED INFORMALLY BY THE SOVIETS OVER THE WEEK END THAT REFERENCE BE MADE TO THE UN CHARTER RATHER THAN TO ANY SPECIFIC PRINCIPLES.

-- PRINCIPLES OF INTER- STATE RELATIONS: DISCUSSIONS PRODUCED CONSIDERABLE PROGRESS TOWARD AGREEMENT ON INTRODUCTORY LANGUAGE TO THIS MANDATE AND DIFFERENCES HAVE NARROWED ON LANGUAGE DEALING WITH THE IMPLEMENTATION OF PRINCIPLES. CENTRAL TO RESOLUTION OF DIFFERENCES ON THE PRINCIPLES MANDATE WILL REMAIN THE TENTATIVE COMPROMISE BETWEEN THE
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FRG AND THE SOVIETS WHICH WOULD ENTAIL LISTING FRONTIER INVIOABILITY AS A SEPARATE PRINCIPLE OF RELATIONS IMMEDIATELY AFTER NON- USE OF FORCE AND IN A CONTEXT IMPLYING SOME LINKAGE BETWEEN THE TWO.

-- MILITARY SECURITY ISSUES: THE SOVIETS HAVE MADE EXPLICIT THEIR OBJECTION TO INCLUSION OF MAJOR

MILITARY MOVEMENTS AMONG CBM'S, WHILE CONTINUING
TO INDICATE FLEXIBILITY ON OTHER ASPECTS OF
MILITARY SECURITY. MOST ALLIED DELEGATIONS DESIRE
TO HOLD FOR NOW TO THE CURRENT NATO POSITION
FAVORING INCLUSION OF MOVEMENTS, BUT WILL PROBABLY
NOT SEEK TO DELAY CONVENING CSCE OVER THIS ISSUE.
FRENCH SILENCE AT HELSINKI ON ALL MILITARY SECURITY

ISSUES MAY WELL INDICATE THAT, WHEN A CONSENSUS
DEVELOPS, THEY WILL GO ALONG.

-- COOPERATION ISSUES: SOVIET FLEXIBILITY (DROPPING
INSISTENCE UPON MENTION OF TRADE " PRINCIPLES" AND
OF A " EUROPEAN PROGRAM" OF ECONOMIC COOPERATION)
BROUGHT PARTICIPANTS CLOSE TO AGREEMENT ON THE
INTRODUCTORY SECTION OF THIS MANDATE. INFORMAL
CONVERSATIONS ON SPECIFIC ELEMEN
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